

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MANILA 20070 220956Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 L-03 SS-15 INR-07 /043 W
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P 220432Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9511

S E C R E T MANILA 20070

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, RP, US
SUBJECT: BASE DISCUSSIONS - HEADQUARTERS BUILDINGS AND HOUSING
FOR PHILIPPINE BASE COMMANDERS

REF: STATE 296090

1. WE APPRECIATE THE COGENT PRESENTATION OF PROBLEMS
(REFTEL) WHICH MIGHT BE INVOLVED IN PROVIDING HEADQUARTERS
BUILDINGS FOR PHILIPPINE BASE COMMANDERS. THE POINT
REMAINS, HOWEVER, THAT THE ISSUE COULD ARISE AND POSSIBLY
TAKE ON IMPORTANT SYMBOLIC
DIMENSIONS. IT WOULD SEEM UNFORTUNATE IF A FAILURE ON
OUR PART TO RESPOND ON THIS COMPARATIELY MODEST ISSUE
WERE TO SLOW PROGRESS IN MORE IMPORTANT AREAS.

2. THERE ARE NO STRUCTURES OF ANY USEABLE KIND ON THE
PROPERTY WE ARE CURRENTLY DESIGNATING AS OUTSIDE THE U.S.
FACILITIES AT CLARK AND SUBIC. THE FACT THAT WE WERE
ASKED WHETHER THERE WERE STRUCTURES IN THESE AREAS IN THE
MEETING ON NOVEMBER 16 WHEN WE OUTLINED PLAN SUGGEST THIS
ISSUE MAY ARISE AGAIN.

3. AT CLARK, THE FILIPINOS ARE CURRENTLY USING SEVERAL
BUILDINGS WITHIN THE U.S. FACILITIES AREA AND PRESUMABLY
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THEY CAN CONTINUE TO DO SO. THIS IS NOT THE CASE AT
SUBIC WHERE THE NAVY FEELS IT IS ALREADY TIGHT FOR SPACE
AND CANNOT IDENTIFY ANY BUILDING WHICH MIGHT BE MADE AVAIL-
ABLE TO PHILIPPINE SIDE. NAVY FEARS THAT, IF THERE IS
NO ALTERNATIVE, FILIPINOS MAY LAY CLAIM TO SPACE WITHIN
USN HEADQUARTERS BUILDING WHICH COULD CAUSE NAVY BOTH
SECURITY AND SPACE PROBLEMS.

4. IF WE ARE TO AVOID PRESSURES FOR USE OF BUILDINGS
WITHIN U.S. FACILITIES, PARTICULARLY AT SUBIC, WE MAY FIND
IT IN OUR INTEREST TO HELP PHILIPPINE SIDE ACQUIRE OR
CONSTRUCT ONE IN THEIR BASE AREA. WE ARE
NOT ADVOCATING THAT WE PROPOSE THIS, BUT WE BELIEVE
CONTINGENCY PLANNING IS HIGHLY DESIRABLE IN EVENT
ANTICIPATED PRESSURES ARISE.
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Message Attributes

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